

CFDA NEWS

CFDA

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Please Note
Date Change

Sept. 13-15, 2006

CFDA/CAC Combined
Convention & Exhibition
Pueblo Convention Center
& Pueblo Marriott Hotel
Pueblo, CO

Mark your calendar and
watch for more details!

Funeral Service Regulation Back on the Legislative Agenda

Colorado Representative Debbie Stafford (R-District 40, Aurora) has introduced legislation that will regulate the practice of funeral service and cremation in Colorado.

As proposed, HB06-1348 seeks to regulate the mortuary science code by:

- Requiring a mortuary science practitioner to be licensed, which requires a mortuary science degree, passing the national board, and one year of experience in the field, typically as an intern.
- Requiring a funeral director to be certified, which requires 2,000 hours of experience and fifty funerals or graveside services directed.
- Requiring an embalmer to be certified, which requires 4,000 hours of experience and the embalming of at least 50 bodies.
- Requiring a cremator to be certified, which requires 500 hours of experience and cremating 100 bodies.
- Requiring an intern to be registered, which requires a high school diploma and a supervising professional.
- Prohibits persons disciplined in Colorado or other states from licensure or certification if they have been disciplined within the last 2 years.
- Requires licenses, certificates and registrations to be renewed annually.
- Limits the period a registrant may intern to 4 years as an embalmer and 2 years as a mortuary science practitioner, funeral director or cremator.

- Sets standards of practice for embalming and cremating.
- Authorizes the executive director of the department of public health and environment to discipline licensees, certificate holders or registrants.
- Grants authority to the director to investigate potential violations and complaints and to enforce disciplinary action.

The proposed legislation resembles the model of the Colorado Funeral Service Board, by recognizing criteria similar to that of the Mortuary Science Practitioner, Certified Funeral Director, Certified Embalming Technician and Certified Intern/Trainee.

In a recent article that appeared in the *Rocky Mountain News*, Rep. Stafford reports that she regularly gets calls about suspected abuses..

"The Colorado legislature deregulated the funeral industry in 1982. At the time, there were about 175 funeral directors and few complaints," Stafford said.

"What has happened over time is the market has opened up, and it's now estimated there are over 500 funeral directors," she said. "Some of them come here because we aren't regulated."

CFDA representatives have been engaged in ongoing dialogue with Rep. Stafford and will continue to monitor the progress of this legislation.

HB06-1348 can be viewed online through the Colorado General Assembly web site at: <http://www.leg.state.co.us>.

Visit the CFDA web site for periodic updates and be prepared for a call to action.

Convention Dates Changed to September 13-15

Dates for the 2006 CFDA/CAC Combined Convention have been changed due to a conflict with the headquarters hotel. The Convention will now be held September 13-15, 2006 at the Pueblo Convention Center and Pueblo Marriott Hotel in Pueblo, Colorado.

The Convention Planning Committee, chaired by Kevin Rogers, Rogers Family Mortuary in Alamosa, toured the property on February 20. Says Rogers, "Pueblo is a friendly and culturally-diverse city. With many exciting activities, cultural places and great local, ethnic restaurants, Pueblo is a great place to visit."

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What Would You Do?

What ethics are raised by funeral homes concerning companies wanting or offering to purchase prosthetic devices, i.e., shoulders, knees, hips, screws, etc. from crematories?

It is strongly advised that a crematory and/or a funeral home NEVER sell prosthetic devices that are recovered from bodies prior to cremation. First, they are not the crematory/funeral home's property so the sale may amount to theft. Secondly, the adverse publicity that would arise if such sales were uncovered would be fatal to a business.

Some funeral homes donate recovered items to charitable organizations. For example, eyeglasses can be donated to the Lion's Club with the permission of the next-of-kin. Some funeral homes also arrange with the family's permission to donate pacemakers to charitable organizations that recondition the devices and use them in third world countries.

Before transferring any medical device, consider the following:

- All donations are done only at the written consent of the next-of-kin.
- Items are only donated and never sold. Nothing should be paid in return for the donation.
- The donee organization should be a recognized, non-profit organization that documents what will be done with the donated devices.

Do you have questions about organ and tissue donation and transplantation?

The American Association of Tissue Banks offers a wealth of information and resources through its web site, including a list of accredited banks. www.aatb.org

CFDA Benefits Work for YOU

The **CFDA Master Trust** was established in 1996. The intent was to create a general fund into which CFDA establishment members may deposit when the funeral home becomes party to a pre-arranged funeral sales contract. By creating this fund, a larger and more easily administered fund was created thereby enabling the association to apply the most productive and prudent management and growth objective.

While Colorado law provides co-mingling of funds for the purposes of managing and investing, monies in the fund are identified in the records of the participant and the trustee by the name of the purchaser and beneficiary and adequate records are maintained to allocate all earning to each prearrangement sales contract.

Our objectives continue to be investment safety, high yield, low administrative fees and responsive agents.

Support the CFDA Master Trust and find out how it can work for your business. Call Don Williams, WMS Financial Group, at (303) 843-0782.

Do you have an article, announcement or fact to share?

Please fax to 720-344-5297
or email to cfda@ascentmeetings.com
and it may be published in
an upcoming newsletter.

Did you know that through membership in CFDA, your establishment can take advantage of the **Music Licensing Program** offered through FAMIC and NFDA?

By obtaining your music license through this program, you can ensure that you are compliant with all three music licensing agencies — BMI, SESAC and ASCAP — and you will be getting the lowest rate available in the profession — \$200.

Businesses that use copyrighted music, either live or recorded, are required by law to pay for music licensing. Compliance with the copyright law should not be taken lightly — noncompliance fines can be as high as \$30,000 per violation.

This program is administered through NFDA, however the music license fee does not include membership in NFDA. Please contact the CFDA office for more information and application.

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Thank You, CFDA Members

Many thanks to the following companies who have joined or renewed their CFDA membership for 2006. We appreciate your continued support and commitment to the funeral service profession in Colorado.

Establishment Members

Advantage Chapel of Memories, Colorado Springs
Ahlberg Funeral Chapel And Crematory, Longmont
Archdiocese of Denver Mortuary, Wheatridge
Aspen Mortuaries, Lakewood
Bohlender Funeral Chapel, Inc., Fort Collins
Brown Funeral Home, Eads
Caldwell - Kirk Mortuary, Denver
Callahan-Edfast Mortuary Inc., Grand Junction
Chaney-Reager Funeral Home, Sterling
Crippin Funeral Home, Montrose
Darrell Howe Mortuary and Crematory, Lafayette
Ellis Family Services LLC, Highlands Ranch
Ertel Funeral Home and Crematory, Cortez
Everett Family Funeral Home & Crematory, Gypsum
Fairmount Mortuary, Denver
Gerk Funeral Home, Holyoke
Heer Mortuary & Crematory, Brush
Horan & McConaty Funeral Service, Aurora
Howe Mortuary, Inc., Longmont
Jeffers-Baucke Funeral Home, Holyoke
Lewellen Longmont Memorial Chapel, Longmont
Lewis & Glenn Funeral Home, Salida
Mesa View Mortuary-Cemetery, Delta
Monarch Society, Inc., Denver
Moser Funeral & Cremation Service, Evans
Peacock Funeral Home, Lamar
Rogers Family Mortuary, Alamosa
Schoenfeld Mortuary, Hot Sulphur Springs
Snell-McLean Funeral Homes LLC, Palisade
Spellman-Schmidt Funeral Home, Wray
Taylor Funeral Service and Crematory, Delta
Tennant Funeral Home, Sterling
Ustick Donelson Johnson Funeral Home Inc., Rocky Ford
Valley Memorial Funeral Chapel, LLC, Lamar
Vessey Mortuary Service, Fort Collins

Allied Members

Charter Management Associates,
dba AFCTS
Beaverton, OR

CPRA Studio LLC
Littleton, CO

Donor Alliance
Denver, CO

Great Western Insurance Company
Tempe, AZ

Newmark of Colorado
Aurora, CO

Science Care
Aurora, CO

Si Funeral Services,
Colorado Wilbert Vault
Commerce City, CO

The Dodge Company
Mesa, AZ

The Dodge Company
Cambridge, MA

Wright Products / Messenger
Boulder, CO

Noteworthy

Congratulations to the following individuals who were recently certified by the Colorado Funeral Service Board:

Jesse Joe Arthurs, MSP
Cindy Lee Frodine, MSP
Darwin G. Jeffers, CFD/CET
Marianne S. Monagle, MSP
Vince J. Rundus, MSP
Zoe Underwood, CFD

CPRA Studio (Cemetery Planning Resource Alliance) has moved to a new office in Littleton, Colorado. You may contact CPRA at 7921 SouthPark Plaza, Suite 106, Littleton, CO 80120, call 1-866-733-CPRA (2772) or visit www.cprastudio.com.

Citing the needs and safety of convention attendees and exhibitors, the National Funeral Directors Association has decided to relocate the 2006 Convention & Expo from New Orleans, LA to the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA. The dates are October 15-18, 2006. NFDA is committed to return to New Orleans in the future and NFDA staff are working with New Orleans convention officials to negotiate when such a date might be feasible.

In Memory



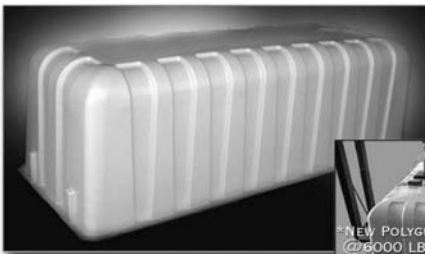
Funeral director Frank Tucker died January 2, at his home in Montrose. Frank went to the University of Colorado, where he was in Who's Who of American Universities. He graduated from law school in 1964. He interned with Wayne Aspinall throughout western Colorado during the development of the Gunnison Tunnel. He began private practice in Glenwood Springs before successfully campaigning for the job of the 9th Judicial District Attorney in 1972. The Governor of Colorado appointed Frank as San Juan County Interim District Attorney in 1975. Frank attended the San Francisco College of Mortuary Science in 1979 and moved to Montrose in 1987 to purchase the Montrose Valley Funeral Home, where he lived for the past 18 years.



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P. O. Box 261664
Highlands Ranch, CO
80163-1664

www.cofda.org

Phone 303-791-2336

Fax 720-344-5297

cfda@ascentmeetings.com

Convention, continued from Page 1

The Pueblo Marriott Hotel is connected to the Pueblo Convention Center. Located in the heart of Historic Downtown Pueblo, the Center borders the Historic Arkansas Riverwalk Project (HARP) and the Union Avenue Historic District.

The Historic Arkansas Riverwalk, a 26-acre urban waterfront, restores the Arkansas River channel to its original location. Pedestrian pathways allow you to stroll around the Riverwalk while bike paths located on the Riverwalk lead you to the beautiful Lake Pueblo, Colorado's most visited reservoir! From diverse dining opportunities to an energetic live-music scene, Pueblo is also full of nighttime entertainment.

The Convention will begin on Wednesday afternoon with an opening session and reception, preceded by a 9-hole golf tournament sponsored by the Colorado Association of Cemeteries. Thursday's schedule includes a full day of education sessions and exhibition with CFDA's Fundraising Auction and reception on Thursday evening. Education programs continue on Friday morning with adjournment around mid-day.

Cemetery Association Pursues Legislative Initiative

The Colorado Association of Cemeteries (CAC) has initiated a bill in the Colorado legislature to allow cemeteries to claim unused or abandoned grave space.

HB06-1268 allows a cemetery authority, a cemetery company, or a county or municipality that contains a cemetery to reclaim title to a lot, grave space, niche or crypt in the cemetery in which no remains have been interred, no burial memorial has been placed, and no other improvement has been made for a specific period. The bill requires that the cemetery attempt to contact the owner of the lot; to publish notices in the local area newspaper for a specified period, and to report status to the State Treasurer before the owner's rights and title to the lot are terminated.

The bill and its current status can be viewed online at <http://www.leg.state.co.us>.